REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Currently, claims 2-25 are pending in this application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated

by Porter et al (U.S. '023, hereinafter "Porter"). Applicant respectfully traverses this

rejection with respect to still pending claims 2-25.

For a reference to anticipate a claim, each element must be found, either expressly

or under principles of inherency, in the reference. Porter fails to disclose each element of

the claimed invention. For example, Porter fails to disclose "means to subsequently

broadcast a request for resources from each of said other subsystem resource locators by

communicating signalling directly with each of said other subsystem resource locators,"

as required by new independent claim 22 and its dependents. Similar (but not necessarily

identical) comments apply to independent claims 13-14 and their respective dependents.

These features are supported by, for example, page 5, lines 11-20 of the specification. In

particular, this portion of the originally-filed specification states, *inter alia*, "For example

the locator in the first SCP 31, when the SCP is initiated, broadcasts to the other resource

locators, a message....this message is received and stored by the resource locators in the

other subsystems, and they in turn broadcast resource messages which are received by the

resource locator in the SCP 31 (emphasis added)."

Porter also fails to disclose "means to subsequently request resources directly

from other subsystem resource locators by communicating signalling directly with said

other resource locators and not by communicating with said resource broker subsequent

to said subsystem being initialized," as required by new independent claim 23 and its

dependents. Similar (but not necessarily identical) comments apply to independent claim

10 and its dependents. The above noted limitation is supported by, for example, page 2,

lines 5-9 and page 7, lines 18-20 of the specification. In particular, page 7, lines 18-20

states "Subsystems with VIPER 1 interfaces register and discover resources and interface

details with the resource broker when the subsystem is initialised, but <u>do not</u>

<u>communicate with the resource broker for subsequent calls</u> (emphasis added)."

Nothing in Porter describes how a node can request resources by broadcasting to

another node or communicating directly with another node in the system without

communicating with the resource broker for subsequent calls.

The Advisory Action states "Porter teaches the network resource manager

'resource locator' is arranged to communicate directly with universal directory function

'resource locator' which is associated with a different network to determine availability

of resources (see fig. 3 and col. 4 lines 25-45)." Col. 4, lines 25-45 of Porter (specifically

identified by the Advisory Action) states the following:

> "Referring now to the FIG. 2, a node, according to the present invention, includes a switch fabric 17. A service processing function 19 is adapted to process requests for services, such as telephone calls and instruct switch fabric 17 how to make the connections necessary to fulfill the request for service. A universal directory function 21, which may located on the node or associated with the network resource manager 16, contains a mapping of all types of logical addresses to physical elements within network 11. For example, if the universal directory function 21 is asked for a terminating call half and is given an telephone number, then it returns a normal telephony interworking function and a terminating node address; if the universal directory function 21 is given an IP address, then the universal directory function returns a IP-telephony interworking function and the configuration information to make the connection. When service processing function 19 receives a request for services that requires a

connection, it consults universal directory function 21 to obtain a meaningful physical address as well as necessary configuration information."

As can be seen from the portion of Porter reproduced above, Porter specifically states that "A universal directory function 21, which may located on the node or associated with the network resource manager 16, contains a mapping of all types of logical addresses to physical elements within network 11." This portion of Porter means that each node is able to perform a look-up of network address information either using a directory function located on the node or using a directory function associated with the network resource manager 16. This portion of Porter does not disclose that each node is then able to communicate with each other node in the network to request additional resources. Porter makes this very clear by indicating that each nodal resource manager 23 is the <u>only gatekeeper to all of the resources belonging to its particular domain</u>. The network resource manager 16 can allocate additional network resources to a nodal resource manager 23. In the event a nodal resource manager 23 cannot satisfy a resource request, the nodal resource manager 23 may request additional resources from the network resource manager 16. (See col. 3, lines 56-61).

Porter fails to teach or suggest that the nodal resource managers 23 communicate directly with each other. Porter thus fails to teach the resource locators being arranged to communicate directly by broadcasting as required by claims 22 and 13-14. Moreover, the description in Porter that each nodal resource locator 23 is shown communicating with the universal directory function 21 in Fig. 3, and this may be associated with the network resource manager 16 (col. 4, lines 31-33), does not imply that each nodal resource manager 23 is able to communicate directly (e.g., via broadcasting) with each of

the other nodal resource managers 23 <u>without</u> communicating via a resource broker as

required, for example, by independent claims 23 and 10. That is, none of the nodal

resource managers 23 request resources directly from another nodal resource manager 23

by direct communication without communicating these requested resources through

network resource manager 16 (with/without a universal directory function 21).

Col. 4, lines 22-25 of Porter states the following:

"Network 11 also includes a network resource manager **16** that can reconfigure network 11 and allocate additional resource to the domain of each node 13, as will be described in detail hereinafter (emphasis added)."

This portion of Porter does not imply that the network resource manager 16

empowers each nodal resource manager 23 to communicate directly with all of the other

nodal resource managers 23 in the domain of the "network resource manager." On the

contrary, it requires that each nodal resource manager 23 must communicate resources

via the network resource manager 16.

Col. 3, lines 50-61 of Porter states the following:

"Every resource manager has a domain, which is the set of resources managed by the resource manager. The domain of a nodal resource manager is the set of resources available to a network node, as the network is currently configured. The system of the present invention may include a network resource manager, whose domain is all connective resources of the network. The network resource manager can reconfigure the network and allocate additional network resources to a nodal resource manager. In the event a nodal resource manager cannot satisfy a resource request, the nodal resource manager may request additional resources from the network resource manager."

This portion of Porter effectively discloses that the network resource manager

16/universal directory function 21 are functioning as some form of network resource

broker. This means that they function as a point of concentration for messaging from nodal resource managers 23, as a nodal resource manager 23 cannot communicate with another nodal resource manager 23 except via the network resource manager 16. This is consistent with col. 4, lines 31-34 of Porter which states "A universal directory function 21, which may be located on the node or associated with the network resource manager 16, contains a mapping of all types of logical addresses to physical elements within network 11." Moreover, col. 4, lines 46-50 of Porter states "Node 13 includes a nodal resource manager <u>23</u>. Nodal resource manager 23 serves as the only gatekeeper to all of the resources belonging to its particular domain. The domain of nodal resource manager 23 is determined by the configuration of network 11 (emphasis added)." Porter therefore does not teach a directory function 21 somehow empowering a nodal resource manager 23 to allocate resources belonging to the domain of another nodal resource manager 23 or direct or request such resources from another nodal resource manager 23.

In contrast, at least claims 10 and 23 relate to each node with a resource locator communicating directly with another resource locator to request additional resources without having to involve a resource broker. In contrast, Porter fails to teach or suggest a nodal resource manager 23 which can communicate directly with another nodal resource manager 23 to request additional resources without having to involve the network resource manager 16. In Porter, only the network resource manager 16 has the ability to request resources from a plurality of nodal resource managers 23, who function as the gatekeepers to the resources in their particular domain. (See col. 4, lines 21-25).

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-25 are not anticipated by Porter and respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 be withdrawn.
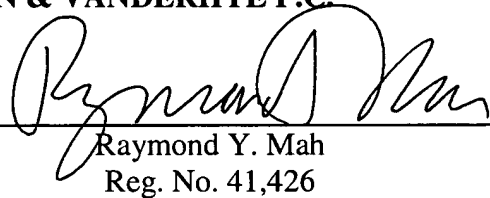
Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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